

NEWS RELEASE

PRESS OFFICE

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Administrator Guzman Honors State Small Business Persons of the Year Award Winners

Top Entrepreneurs to be formally recognized on May 5 during National Small Business Week Awards Ceremony

WASHINGTON – Today, Administrator Isabella Casillas Guzman, head of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) and voice for America's 32.5 million small businesses in President Biden's Cabinet, announced the 2022 Small Business Persons of the Year winners from each of the nation's 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. The winners will be formally recognized on May 5 during the National Small Business Week (NSBW) Virtual Summit's Awards Ceremony, May 2-5. This year's NSBW theme, "Building a Better America Through Entrepreneurship," highlights the resilience, ingenuity, and creativity of these award winners who, like millions of small businesses, have navigated challenges from the pandemic and contributed to our nation's economic comeback.

"I am delighted to recognize our National Small Business Week winners from across the country who have stepped up to build their businesses, create jobs, and power historic recovery over the past year," **Administrator Guzman said.** "Entrepreneurs are innovators and creators at their core, delivering the products and services we depend on and making our neighborhoods, towns, and cities more vibrant places to live and work. They give their all to achieve their American dream of business ownership and, by doing so, advance America's economy and global competitiveness. Our 2022 award winners represent the vibrancy and resiliency of our nation's 32.5 million small businesses, and I look forward to celebrating these small business giants and the positive impact they have had on lives and livelihoods in communities all across America."

National Small Business Week will be observed May 1-7, 2022. It will celebrate our small businesses, provide critical resources and recognize SBA partners for their support in providing startups and small business owners with counseling and advice, skills

development, disaster preparedness and recovery, as well as access to capital, government contracting, and market opportunities to start, grow and build resilient businesses.

About National Small Business Week

For more than 60 years, the President of the United States has issued a proclamation announcing National Small Business Week, which recognizes the critical contributions of America's entrepreneurs and small business owners. More than half of Americans either own or work for a small business, and they create about two out of every three new jobs in the U.S. each year. As part of National Small Business Week, the U.S. Small Business Administration takes the opportunity to highlight the impact of outstanding entrepreneurs, small business owners, and others from all 50 states and U.S. territories. Every day, they're working to grow small businesses, create 21st century jobs, drive innovation, and increase America's global competitiveness.

To register for National Small Business Week and for other event information, visit www.sba.gov/NSBW.

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2022 State and Territory Small Business Person(s) of the Year

Alabama
Roland G. Brown
Brown Precision Inc.
Huntsville, AL
Arizona
Tracey Latham
Latham Industries, LLC
Phoenix, AZ
Arkansas
Jaim Krutz
Big Cuppa, LLC

Morrilton, AR
California
Hernán Luis y Prado
VetPowered, LLC
San Diego, CA
Colorado
Dr. Jen Questen
Aspen Park Vet Hospital
Confer, CO
Connecticut
Viron Rondos
Viron Rondo Osteria
Cheshire, CT
Delaware
Lisa M. St. Clair
Tailbangers Inc.
Millsboro, DE
District of Columbia
Eduardo F. Ortiz
Ashleigh Tara Nicole Axios
Coforma, LLC
Washington, D.C.
Florida
Dennis Chan
Blue Bamboo Canton Bistro & Bar
Jacksonville, FL
Georgia
Ardina T. Pierre
Nature's Own Herb Shop, Inc.
Atlanta, GA
Hawaii

Truss Systems Hawaii Inc. Puunene, HI Idaho Marcella Medor MarCom, LLC Idaho Falls, ID Illinois Chris Ginder Mary Ginder Gindo's Spice of Life, LLC St. Charles, IL Indiana Donte Lamar Wilburn Premier Unlimited, LLC Lafayette, IN Iowa Kimberly Baeth Golden Openings, Inc. Urbandale, Iowa Kansas Daniel J. Smoots Janeice E. Smoots Fanestil Meats Emporia, KS Kentucky Alejandro Ramirez Universal Spartan, LLC Vine Grove, KY	Scott E. Loomer
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Daniel J. Smoots Janeice E. Smoots Fanestil Meats Emporia, KS Kentucky Alejandro Ramirez Universal Spartan, LLC Vine Grove, KY Louisiana	Urbandale, Iowa
Janeice E. Smoots Fanestil Meats Emporia, KS Kentucky Alejandro Ramirez Universal Spartan, LLC Vine Grove, KY Louisiana	Kansas
Fanestil Meats Emporia, KS Kentucky Alejandro Ramirez Universal Spartan, LLC Vine Grove, KY Louisiana	Daniel J. Smoots
Emporia, KS Kentucky Alejandro Ramirez Universal Spartan, LLC Vine Grove, KY Louisiana	Janeice E. Smoots
Kentucky Alejandro Ramirez Universal Spartan, LLC Vine Grove, KY Louisiana	Fanestil Meats
Alejandro Ramirez Universal Spartan, LLC Vine Grove, KY Louisiana	Emporia, KS
Universal Spartan, LLC Vine Grove, KY Louisiana	Kentucky
Vine Grove, KY Louisiana	Alejandro Ramirez
Louisiana	Universal Spartan, LLC
	Vine Grove, KY
Craig A. Stevens	Louisiana
	Craig A. Stevens

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Portland, ME
Maryland
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Silver Spring, MD
Massachusetts
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Fireking Baking Company
Braintree, MA
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Onyx Enterprises, Inc.
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Tennessee
Robert Scott Underwood
Maxwell Industries, LLC
Athens, TN
Texas
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Bill Coker
Red Iguana
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Vermont
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Blake Hill Preserves
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Intellectechs, Inc.

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Liliana's Restaurant
Fitchburg, WI
Wyoming
Lena Dirck
The Aspen House Restaurant
Rawlins, WY

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About the U.S. Small Business Administration

The U.S. Small Business Administration helps power the American dream of business ownership. As the only go-to resource and voice for small businesses backed by the strength of the federal government, the SBA empowers entrepreneurs and small business owners with the resources and support they need to start, grow, expand their businesses, or recover from a declared disaster. It delivers services through an extensive network of SBA field offices and partnerships with public and private organizations. To learn more, visit www.sba.gov.